710

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CONCERNS BOTH BRITISH INDIA AND INDIAN STATES.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 710	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated 6-12- 1892.	

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Proof

6 DECEMBER 1892, No. 710, POLITICAL.

E 1

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C/
6/10

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

ORDER—dated 6 December 1892, No. 710, Political.

His Excellency the Governor in Council considers that, with reference to recent events at the Periyár, it would be more satisfactory to all concerned were the system of dual control in the matter of the sale and purchase of intoxicating liquors in the camps to cease. The Resident in Travancore will accordingly be requested to place the matter before the Travancore Durbar and to ascertain whether it is willing to lease to the Madras Government the exclusive right of the sale of liquors in the camps and a radius of three miles around them, and, if so, for what sum per annum.

2. The Madras Government is anxious, if the Travancore Government agrees to the proposal now made, that arrangements should be concluded as early as possible, and to this end is prepared to pay any reasonable compensation which may be necessary to immediately terminate any existing leases.

3. The Resident will assure the Travancore Government that, in the event of the lease being granted, the strictest attention will be paid to the Travancore Abkári Regulation by the Superintendent of the works and the British officers.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Resident in Travancore.
" Public Works Department.

Exd. A. Raitt.

1.

Referring to the correspondence touching the troubles which have recently occurred in the Periyar Camp, I am to request you to see the Dewan, and tell him that 2
the Govt: regrets very much the action that Mr. de Winton took as regards the expulsion of the liquor seller from the Camp. The Govt. after careful enquiry into the matter believes that Mr. de Winton's action arose from a mistaken notion as to his powers as Superintendent of the works over the residents in the Camp.

But although the Govt. cannot but condemn Mr. de Winton's conduct, it is convinced from certain facts which this enquiry has revealed, that the present arrangements for the sale of liquor in the Camp are so unsatisfactory

* that they should be altered as soon as possible.

~~I am therefore to ask you to propose to the Dewan that he~~

2.

3.

4.

5. If the Dewan consents to this proposal, the necessary application will be made officially. You will make it apparent to the Dewan that the Govt: is anxious to avoid all the vexation of lawsuits, and not [sic] only in connection with the trouble about the liquor-seller, but also as regards Mr. Logan & the Club, hopes that it

73

amicably. The Govt. however quite believes that Mr. Seeley's action in seizing the liquors in Mr. Logan's Club house was quite justifiable, in view of the evidence which was laid before him, but it hopes that under the circumstances the Travancore Govt. may be induced to withdraw from the prosecution, and restore the liquors ~~sold~~ seized. If however the case is proceeded with, I am to request you to furnish the Govt. with a report of such proceedings as may be taken.

You will see that the Govt. though ack=nowledging the indiscretion of its officers is under the impression that the existing state of affairs has placed them in rather a false position; and that it is anxious in the interest of all parties to avoid a public exposure, and to take such steps as will prevent the ~~re~~ occurrence of similar troubles in the future.

W
Govt.

74

D.O.

Confidential

Despatched 11.10.92

OOTACAMUND

11th October 1892.

3

My dear Hannyngton,

~~Referring to the correspon-~~

~~dence touching the trouble which has re-~~
~~cently occurred in the Periyar camp, I am~~
~~to tell you that Government, having given~~
~~matters its careful consideration & having~~
~~received an explanation from DeWinton &~~
~~heard what the Chief Engineer has to say~~
~~on the subject, is of opinion that, althoug~~
~~DeWinton's conduct cannot be defended &~~
~~although he acted-owing no doubt to a mis~~
~~taken impression as to his position & pow~~
~~ers-in a hasty & high-handed manner, there~~
~~can be no question that the existence~~
~~within the camps of liquor shops, which~~
~~are free of the controul of the British~~
~~officers, is highly detrimental to peace &~~
~~order &, consequently, to satisfactory pro-~~
~~gress of the works & that the only mode~~
~~by which the recurrence of the regrettable~~
~~incidents of the past can be effectually~~
~~avoided is, if feasible, to obtain complete~~
~~authority over the sale of liquor within~~
~~the camps & a certain area around them.~~

Vide revised para 1

2. I am, therefore, to ask you to ascer-

tain

I think this had better be re-written, substituting what I have written for paras. 1 and 5.

LHL
8/10/92

To Govt.

I approve, with H.E.'s alterations. But where is the draft order on C No 953? It is necessary that there should be one.

HEL
7 Oct.

I don't think Mr Lushy's action in seizing the liquor, as he did, was quite justifiable - but as my Hon: colleagues are in accord on the point, I pass H.E.'s Draft.

8/10 LHL

R. 10/10

75

-tain, with all care for the susceptibilities of the Travancore Government, whether it would be willing to lease to this Government the exclusive right of the sale of liquor within the two camps & a radius of three miles around them &, if so, for what sum per annum.

3. Government is anxious, if an arrangement of this kind can be arrived at, that it should be given effect to as speedily as possible & to this end is prepared to pay any reasonable compensation which may be necessary to at once terminate the existing lease.

4. You should give to the Diwan the assurance that, if the proposals made are acceded to, the strictest attention will be paid to compliance with the Travancore Abkari Regulation & that the Superintendent of Works & his subordinates will be specially enjoined to be careful to refrain in the administration of the lease from anything which would be calculated to cause unnecessary friction with the Travancore authorities.

5. ~~Government wishes to know what further action, if any, has been taken with regard to DeWinton's business & the affair of the Club; please let me have such information as you can, without~~

Vide revised para 5

70

~~n, attention to these points, obtain~~

Yours sincerely

[signature] 4 Oct

J C Hannyngton Esq.
I.C.S.

Pereyra

E

H.E. the Governor
The Hon. Sir H. S. Wilson V. C. [illegible]
The Hon. [illegible] V. C.

Novr. 4th 1892
Trivandrum

5

My dear Price

Your Confidential D.O. of 11th October 1892

Owing to H.E. the Governors tour I was not able to see the Dewan as directed until the 1st November.

I now enclose copy of a communication from him which shows what I have been able to effect.

I think the negociation has been satisfactorily accomplished so far, and the official details will be carried out with the

greatest expedition possible

I shall hand over the papers as we took to last fin[?] on the 8th

Yours sincerely

Cam[illegible]

Trivandrum

6 3d November 1892.

CHIEF SECRETARY
7 NOV 92
GOVERNMENT OF 6

My dear Sir,

Having duly submitted to His Highness the Maha Rajah your letter of the 31st Ultimo, I beg to inform you that His Highness has been pleased to approve of the lease of the Abkari farm of the Perriar Camps and of the country lying within a circuit of 3 miles of the Camps being granted to the "Superintendent of the Perriar Works for the time being" on his executing the usual agreements.

6

6 There are two sets of contract, one for the manufacture and sale of Country liquor and toddy and the other for the vend of European liquors. The former is usually sold for a period of 3 years to the highest bidder at auction. The current lease expires at the end of the next year (1069). A license will be issued to the Superintendent for the unexpired portion of the lease on payment of a sum which will be determined

by

by His Highness's Government, and it will be re-
-newed, if desired at the end of that period for
another 2 or 3 years on payment of a fee which
will be fixed according to the circumstances of
the time. In regard to European liquors there are
separate licenses for wholesale and retail sale.
Both may be taken out by the same person. The fee
for a wholesale license is 25 Rupees and for a re-
-tail license 15 Rupees per annum, or any part of
a year. These licenses run for a year and a fresh
application has to be made with another fee if
the license is desired to be renewed. I presume
the Superintendent of the Works will take out
both licenses as the object is to keep out other people.
The sale of European liquors is not a monopoly like
the Abkari farm. The Government is at liberty
to issue as many licenses as there are applications
but in this case, we will refuse licenses to others
on the British licensee taking out licenses for
as many shops as now exist within the area
desired to be secured. I believe there are now
2 wholesale and one retail shop.

The

The present license holders will have to be compensated for the forfeiture of their rights, and this I note you undertake to do. I note also that the Superintendent of the works will conform in all respects to the Travancore Abkary Laws and rules.

I have now to correspond with the local Revenue Officers, ascertain the amount of compensation to be paid to the present farmers and license holders, and determine the amount to be assessed on the lease of the Abkary farm. As soon as I am in a position to do so, I will communicate with you again with a view to the farm and licenses being granted to the Superintendent of the works. I will in the mean time direct the restoration of the liquor confiscated, and the withdrawal of the prosecution. But till the present licenses are cancelled and new ones issued to the British Officers they will not be at liberty to sell liquor or to prevent the present license holders from exercising their right.

I am
My dear Sir,
Yours faithfully
(Signed) Shungranoo Iyer

To
J. C. Hannyngton Esquire
British Resident in Travancore
& Cochin.

(True Copy)
[signature]
Resident

CONFIDENTIAL No. 396

Political DEPARTMENT

[9]

E

D.O.

From

Resid^t in Travancore.

No. —

Dated 4 } Novr. 1892.

Received 7 }

Enclosures One

SUBJECT.

Lease of Abkari Farm of Periyar Camp.

Papers sent W/Pro 3/12/92

W/

H.E. the Gr. & Cic

For orders whether the official application should now go or the further communication promised in para 5 of the Dewan's letter be awaited.

The previous papers are ~~printing~~ being printed with the G.O. on M. de Winton's letter & as they are not absolutely necessary for the present current, the latter is submitted alone

C.S.
7/11

7 Nov

I think the official application sh^d go in at once.
I think this will be a satisfactory solution of all the difficulties.

W
11 Nov

I concur.
HL
15 Nov.

HL
19/11/92

9 P

Print

ORDER 6 Decr 92 A 710

Submitted that the order itself need not be confidential
C.S.

H.E. the Governor in Council considers that with reference to recent events at [redacted] the Periyar [redacted] it would be more satisfactory to all concerned, were the dual system of control in the matter of the sale & purchase of intoxicating liquors in the camps to cease. The Resident in Travancore will accordingly be requested to place the matter before the Travancore Durbar & to ascertain whether it is willing to lease to the Madras Government the exclusive right of the sale of liquors in the camps & a radius of three miles around them, & if so for what sum per annum.

W
7 Dec.

2 The Madras Government is anxious, if the Travancore Government agrees to the proposal now made, that arrangements should be concluded as early as possible & to this end is prepared to pay any reasonable compensation which may be necessary to immediately terminate any existing leases.

3 The Resident will assure the Travancore Government that, in the event of the lease being granted, the strictest

attention ~~would~~ will be paid to the Travancore Abkari Regulation by the Supdt. of the Works & the British officers.

(From orders)

27 Nov

29/11/92

C.S. 24/11

E

PERIYAR ABKARI LEASE.

H.E. the Govr. sense ?

The Secretary to Government, P.W.D. for favour of counterinitials.

Show proof

3/12

To

The Resident in Travancore.
,, Public Works Department.

6/11 Desp. 10-12-9.

C 30/11

Read again Order of Government, dated
18 , No.

Enclosures.

Current No.

Statement with ditto.

Order, &c., of Government—A.

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CONCERNS BOTH BRITISH INDIA AND INDIAN STATES.

ORDINARY, PRINTED.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G.O., DATED 6-12-92

No. 710-

8/8/92

23-11-11

16129 IV

First copy sent to Press. 6-12-92

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Periyar Abkari lease

Directing the Resident in Travancore to ascertain whether the Travancore Durbar is willing to lease to the Madras Govt the exclusive right of the sale of liquors in the Periyar camps, & a radius of three miles around them & if so, for what sum -